

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 remain pending in the application.

The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider earlier rejections in light of the following remarks. No new issues are raised nor is further search required as a result of the changes made herein. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-25 over Roberts

In the Office Action, claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,792,605 to Roberts et al. ("Roberts"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-9 recite packaging a message object with data associated with a request from a client for transmission to said second server and transmitting the message object to the second server to allow the second server to **directly** service the client. Claims 10-18 a service-chaining module configured to package a location of at least one of an application program and data as an itinerary list into a message object, configured to transmit the message object to another server, and is configured to service the message object for transfer of at least one of an application program and data **directly** to a client. Claims 19 and 20 recite transmitting a message object containing data associated with a request from a client to a second server and initiating transfer from the second server **directly** to the client of at least one of an application program and data at the second server. Claims 21-25 recite a service-chaining module configured to receive a message object from another server containing an itinerary list of at least one of an application program and data in response to a request from one of a plurality of servers over a network, and configured to initiate a subsequent transfer of at least one of the application program and data **directly** to a client from a selected server.

Thus, Applicants' claimed features transfer a message object from one server to another server in response to a request from a client for transfer of

at least one of an application program and data, with the server containing the at least one of the application program and the data directly servicing the client.

Roberts appears to disclose a method and apparatus for accessing and using services and applications from a number of sources into a customized application (See Abstract). A centralized system receives a request for information via an HTTP interface using web services engine to interpret the request and determine what services are needed using a web services directory to identify services available to satisfy the request (See Roberts, col. 5, lines 12-18). When a response returns from its source, the web services engine builds the response into a reply to the HTTP request and provides it to the requester (See Roberts, col. 5, lines 18).

Roberts relies on a centralized system that collects information requested by a client, the information being returned to the client by the centralized system. Thus, Roberts simply discloses a centralized system servicing a request for information from a client. Roberts fails to disclose or suggest transferring a message object associated with a request for at least one of an application program and data to second server, with the second server directly servicing the request, as recited by claims 1-25.

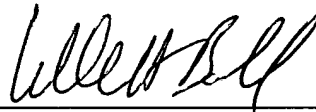
A benefit of transferring a message object associated with a request for at least one of an application program and data to second server, with the second server directly servicing the request is as Applicants discuss within their specification, e.g., reducing network traffic. Within the prior art, a centralized location within a distributed environment is relied on to collect information requested by a client. A centralized approach requires network traffic to transfer a request to the centralized location, network traffic to retrieve the information and network traffic to send the information from the centralized location to the client. Applicants' claimed features reduce the amount of network traffic by having a server that contains at least one of a requested application program and data to directly service a client. Applicants' claimed features eliminate network traffic associated with having to intermediately transfer information to a centralized system.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1-25 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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